

(c) the quantity of coffee exported during 1991-92; and

(d) the target set for its export during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Steps taken to increase export of coffee include participation in International trade fairs, development of speciality coffee like 'Monsooned Coffee', increase in quantities offered in the export auctions, etc.

(c) 1,00,241 MT of coffee have been exported during April 1991 to February 1992.

(d) 1,20,000 MT is targetted for export during 1992-93.

Collection of toll tax on National Highways in Maharashtra

3741. SHRI RAMCHANDRA MAROTRAO GHANGARE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of National Highways passing through Maharashtra on which the work for widening and improving of roads are going on and the progress made so far;

(b) whether the Government have started collection, of toll tax for the bridges newly constructed on these roads; and

(c) if so, the amount of toll tax collected so far on National Highway Nos. 6 and 7 and the expenditure incurred on the employment of the personnel on these roads during 1990-91 and 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Improvement works costing

Rs. 167.8 crores are at various stages of progress on National Highways No. 3, 4, 4 B, 6, 7, 8, 9, 17, 50. Expenditure on these works till September, 1991 is Rs. 71.73 crores.

(b) Yes, Sir. Bridge fee is collected on all bridges on these roads which qualify for such collection.

(c) The amounts of Bridge fees collected from Bridges on National Highways No. 6 and 7 for the years 1990-91 and 1991-92 are Rs. 4.43 lakhs and Rs. 58.89 lakhs respectively. No expenditure has been incurred on the employment of Personnel for this purpose as the collection is being carried out through contractors.

Export of sea ponds

3742. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the export target of sea foods during the current year and the achievements made;

(b) the countries to which exported;

(c) whether foreign participation is allowed in areas such as deep sea fishing aquaculture etc; and

(d) if so, the extent to which it is being allowed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a). Export of seafood during April, 1991 to February, 1992 is Rs. 1200 crores as against the target of Rs. 1500 crores fixed for the full year.

(b) The exports of marine products are mainly to Japan, EEC countries, USA, Singapore, Hongkong, UAE etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In case of joint ventures under 100% EOUs scheme, 100% foreign equity is permitted and in other cases, maximum of 51% foreign equity is permitted.

New Financial Instruments

3743. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision on the recommendations of the study group constituted in March, 1991 under the Chairmanship of Shri M.J. Pherwani for new financial instruments;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations which have been accepted by the Government ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The recommendations on new Financial Instruments given by the M.J. Pherwani Committee are under examination in the Reserve Bank of India and in the Department of Company Affairs.

[Translation]

Spinning Mills in Uttar Pradesh

3744. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new spinning mills set up in Uttar Pradesh during 1991-92;

(b) the production capacity of each mill; and

(c) the amount provided as loans by the nationalised banks to the above mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). As per the information made available by textile Commissioner, one spinning mill namely M/s Modern Industries, Ghaziabad Started production during 1991-92 in Uttar Pradesh. The installed capacity of the mill was 576 rotors and it produces 138 tonnes of cotton yarn per month on an average. The amount provided as loan by the Nationalised Banks to the Mill is not available.

[English]

Private buses plying under D.T.C.

3745. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private buses plying under DTC at present which are more than 8 years old and are not in a good condition;

(b) the reasons for not withdrawing these buses from operation; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that all the private buses under DTC operation conform to the provisions of Motor Vehicle Act, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The private buses operating under DTC are not permitted to ply after they complete 8 years of age from the date of registration with the State Transport Authority (STA). After the completion of 8 years of life span of the bus the contract of the bus stands terminated. and the operator is allowed to replace his old bus with a new one if he so desires. The private operator is bound to keep the vehicle road-worthy, and also ply his vehicle only under a fitness certificate issued as per the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act by the appropriate authority.